

AMENDMENTIn the Claims

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for anchoring a tubular element within a passageway formed in a mammalian body, the passageway having a wall with an inner surface, the apparatus comprising:

a) a tubular element comprising a hollow tubular outer lumen having a proximal end and a distal end;

b) a deployment element positioned within the outer lumen and slidable with respect to the outer lumen, the deployment element comprising a hollow tubular inner lumen with a wall having an inner surface, where the inner lumen has a proximal end and a distal end, and where the inner lumen has a bore extending completely through the inner lumen from the proximal end to the distal end; and,

c) a plurality of resilient anchoring members attached to the distal end of the inner lumen and extending longitudinally beyond the distal end of the inner lumen, each anchoring member being reversibly movable by the deployment element between a first position and a second position, where in the first position, at least a portion of each anchoring member is retracted within the outer lumen, and where in the second position, at least a portion of each anchoring member is deployed exteriorly to the outer lumen, so as to engage the inner surface of the mammalian passageway and anchor the ~~tubular~~ deployment element in the passageway.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, where the tubular element is a catheter.

3. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the outer lumen has openings near the distal end of the outer lumen through which at least a portion of each anchoring member is deployed so as to engage the inner wall of the mammalian passageway and anchor the tubular element in the selected position.

4. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the deployment means comprises a flexible, elongated, hollow tubular inner lumen.

5. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the deployment means comprises a

flexible, elongated, hollow tubular inner lumen.

6. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein a movable guide wire having a proximal end and a distal end is positioned within the inner lumen, and further wherein the distal end of the guide wire is coupled to a cap member, the cap member further being coupled to the anchoring members.

7. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, where the deployment element further comprises a guide wire having a proximal end and a distal end, and where the inner lumen is a collar member attached to the distal end of the guide wire.

8. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, where the anchoring members comprise a pseudoelastic material.

9. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 8, where the pseudoelastic material is a nickel titanium alloy.

10. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, where the anchoring members comprise spring steel.

11. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, where the plurality of resilient anchoring members comprises two anchoring members.

12. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1 having three anchoring members.

13. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the anchoring members have a first end portion coupled to the distal end of the deployment means, and a second end portion coupled to a cap element.

14. (withdrawn) An apparatus for anchoring a catheter within a passageway formed in a mammalian body, the apparatus comprising:

a) a catheter having a flexible, elongated, hollow tubular outer lumen with a central longitudinal axis extending therethrough, the outer lumen having a proximal end and a distal end;

b) deployment means positioned within the outer lumen and slidable with respect to the outer lumen, the deployment means having a proximal end and a distal end; and,

c) a plurality of resilient anchoring members comprised of a pseudoelastic material and coupled to the distal end of the deployment means and extending longitudinally beyond the distal end of the deployment means, each anchoring member being reversibly movable by the deployment means between a first position and a second position, wherein in the first position, at least a portion of each anchoring member is retracted within the outer lumen of the catheter, and wherein in the second position, at least a portion of each of the anchoring members is deployed exteriorly to the outer lumen of the catheter, so as to engage an inner wall of the mammalian passageway and anchor the catheter in a selected position within the passageway.

15. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the pseudoelastic material is a nickel titanium alloy.

16. (withdrawn) An apparatus for anchoring a tubular element within a passageway formed in a mammalian body, the apparatus comprising:

a) a tubular element having a flexible, elongated, hollow tubular outer lumen with a central longitudinal axis extending therethrough, the outer lumen having a proximal end and a distal end;

b) a plurality of openings located near the distal end of the outer lumen;

c) deployment means positioned within the outer lumen and slidable with respect to the outer lumen, the deployment means having a proximal end and a distal end; and,

d) a plurality of resilient anchoring members coupled to the distal end of the deployment means and extending longitudinally beyond the distal end of the deployment means, each anchoring member being reversibly movable by the deployment means between a first position and a second position, wherein in the first position, at least a portion of each anchoring member is retracted within the outer lumen of the tubular element, and wherein in the second position, at least a portion of each of the anchoring members is deployed through the openings exteriorly to the outer lumen of the tubular element, so as to engage an inner wall of the mammalian passageway and anchor the tubular element in a selected position within the passageway.

17. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the anchoring members are comprised of a pseudoelastic material.

18. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the pseudoelastic material is a nickel titanium alloy.

19. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the anchoring members are comprised of spring steel.

20. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the anchoring members have a first end portion coupled to the distal end of the deployment means and a second end portion coupled to a retaining ring.

21. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising a guide wire.

22. (previously presented) A method for anchoring a tubular element within a passageway formed in a mammalian body, the passageway having an inner surface, the method comprising:

- a) providing the apparatus of claim 1;
- b) positioning the apparatus at a selected location within the passageway; and
- c) deploying at least a portion of anchoring members against the inner surface of the passageway thereby anchoring the tubular element within the passageway at the selected location.

23. (withdrawn) A method for anchoring a tubular element within a passageway formed in a mammalian body, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) providing the apparatus of claim 16;
- b) positioning the apparatus of claim 16 at a selected location within the passageway;
- c) deploying at least a portion of anchoring members of the apparatus of claim 16 against an inner wall within the passageway; and,
- d) disengaging the anchoring members from the inner wall and retracting the anchoring members back into the tubular element.

24. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, where the anchoring members are

attached within the wall of the inner lumen.

25. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, where the anchoring members are attached to the inner surface of the wall of the inner lumen.

26. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, where the anchoring members are substantially oval in cross-section.

27. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, where the anchoring members have a top portion and the top portion is substantially flat.

28. (currently amended) An apparatus for anchoring a tubular element within a passageway formed in a mammalian body, the passageway having a wall with an inner surface, the apparatus comprising:

a) a tubular element comprising a hollow tubular outer lumen having a proximal end and a distal end;

b) a deployment means positioned within the outer lumen and slidable with respect to the outer lumen, the deployment means comprising a hollow tubular inner lumen with a wall having an inner surface, where the inner lumen has a proximal end and a distal end, and where the inner lumen has a bore extending completely through the inner lumen from the proximal end to the distal end; and,

c) a plurality of resilient anchoring members attached within the wall of the inner lumen and extending longitudinally beyond the distal end of the inner lumen, each anchoring member being reversibly movable by the deployment means between a first position and a second position, where in the first position, at least a portion of each anchoring member is retracted within the outer lumen, and where in the second position, at least a portion of each anchoring member is deployed exteriorly to the outer lumen, so as to engage the inner surface of the mammalian passageway and anchor the tubular deployment element in the passageway.

Claims 29-31 (canceled)

32. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 31, where the ^{HA}pseudoelastic material is a nickel titanium alloy.

33. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 28, where the anchoring members comprise spring steel.

34. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 28, where the plurality of resilient anchoring members comprises two anchoring members.

35. (previously presented) A method for anchoring a tubular element within a passageway formed in a mammalian body, the passageway having an inner surface, the method comprising:

- a) providing the apparatus of claim 28;
- b) positioning the apparatus at a selected location within the passageway; and
- c) deploying at least a portion of anchoring members against the inner surface of the passageway thereby anchoring the tubular element within the passageway at the selected location.

36. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 28, where the anchoring members are substantially oval in cross-section.

37. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 28, where the anchoring members have a top portion and the top portion is substantially flat.

38. (currently amended) An apparatus for anchoring a tubular element within a passageway formed in a mammalian body, the passageway having a wall with an inner surface, the apparatus comprising:

- a) a tubular element comprising a hollow tubular outer lumen having a proximal end and a distal end;
- b) a deployment element positioned within the outer lumen and slidable with respect to the outer lumen, the deployment element comprising a hollow tubular inner lumen with a wall having an inner surface, where the inner lumen has a proximal end and a distal end, and where the inner lumen has a bore extending completely through the inner lumen from the proximal end to the distal end; and,
- c) a plurality of resilient anchoring members attached to the inner surface of the wall of

the inner lumen and extending longitudinally beyond the distal end of the inner lumen, each anchoring member being reversibly movable by the deployment element between a first position and a second position, where in the first position, at least a portion of each anchoring member is retracted within the outer lumen, and where in the second position, at least a portion of each anchoring member is deployed exteriorly to the outer lumen, so as to engage the inner surface of the mammalian passageway and anchor the ~~tubular~~ deployment element in the passageway.

39. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 38, where the tubular element is a catheter.

40. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 38, where the deployment element further comprises a guide wire having a proximal end and a distal end, and where the inner lumen is a collar member attached to the distal end of the guide wire.

41. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 38, where the anchoring members comprise a pseudoelastic material.

42. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 41, where the pseudoelastic material is a nickel titanium alloy.

43. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 38, where the anchoring members comprise spring steel.

44. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 38, where the plurality of resilient anchoring members comprises two anchoring members.

45. (previously presented) A method for anchoring a tubular element within a passageway formed in a mammalian body, the passageway having an inner surface, the method comprising:

- a) providing the apparatus of claim 38;
- b) positioning the apparatus at a selected location within the passageway; and
- c) deploying at least a portion of anchoring members against the inner surface of the passageway thereby anchoring the tubular element within the passageway at the selected